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Letter dated 16 November 2005 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Since its establishment on 15 April 1995, the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS) has been assisting my efforts to advance the cause of peace and reconciliation in Somalia through contacts with Somali leaders, civic organizations and the States and organizations concerned. UNPOS has also monitored closely the situation in and relating to Somalia and assisted me in providing periodic briefings and written reports to the Security Council.

In my report of 18 February 2005 (S/2005/89), I informed the Security Council that the United Nations had been asked by the Transitional Federal Government, the countries of the region and the international donor community to take the lead in coordinating support to implement the agreements reached at the Somali National Reconciliation Conference and establish peace and stability in Somalia. I also proposed an expanded role for the United Nations, which would include, among other duties, (a) assisting in the continuous dialogue among Somali parties for reconciliation; (b) assisting in the effort to address the issue of "Somaliland"; (c) coordinating support for the peace process with Somalia's neighbours and other international partners; and (d) chairing the Coordination and Monitoring Committee as well as playing a leading political role in peacebuilding activities in Somalia. In its presidential statement of 7 March 2005 (S/PRST/2005/11), the Security Council, inter alia, welcomed the efforts of UNPOS and noted the need to expand the United Nations presence as I had proposed.

During 2006, the main objectives of UNPOS will be to continue efforts to foster inclusive dialogue and reconciliation among the transitional federal institutions of Somalia, support the establishment of governance structures and institutions and develop plans of action for them in close coordination with the Transitional Federal Government, the United Nations country team and the international community. UNPOS will also coordinate the political and financial support of the international community to the nascent Somali institutions. Given the essential role of UNPOS at this critical juncture of the Somali peace process, it is my intention to continue these activities for the biennium 2006-2007.

I should be grateful if you could bring the present letter to the attention of members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

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